

Serial No.: 09/343,517
Group Art Unit: 2663
Examiner: Derrick Ferris

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 through 6, 24 through 26 remain in this application. Claims 1, 3 through 6 have been amended. Claims 2 and 7 through 23 have been cancelled. It is requested that the application be reconsidered and allowed in view of the amendment and the following comments.

The final Office Action rejected claims 1-23 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,461,624 (the "Mazzola reference") in view of the article, "TUBA: Replacing IP with CLNP," (the "Katz reference"). However, the references either alone or in combination fail to disclose or suggest the requirements of the claims.

Independent Claim 1 and dependent claims 3 through 6

Independent claim 1 requires "routing the IP packet to an IP tunneling layer network interface, wherein the IP tunneling layer network interface translates the IP packet to a second protocol to be transmitted over a data communications channel in the synchronous optical network to a remote IP gateway connected to the second IP device."

The Mazzola reference nowhere discloses translating IP packets to a second protocol and transmitting the IP packets over a DCC channel. As stated in the Office Action, the Mazzola reference does not show overlaying an IP interface over a second communications protocol for transmission over the DCC channel in SONET overhead.

The Katz reference fails to add to the disclosure of the Mazzola reference. The Katz reference nowhere discloses a SONET network or a DCC channel in SONET overhead or transmitting IP packets over DCC channel in a SONET network.

Even if the Mazzola reference and the Katz reference are combined, neither suggests or discloses translating IP packets for transmission over DCC channel in a SONET network.

Independent Claim 24 and dependent claims 25 and 26

Independent claim 24 requires, "a routing table for storing information about IP devices

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connected to network elements in the synchronous optical network ; and an IP tunneling layer network interface that translates the IP packets into a second protocol to be communicated over a data communication channel in overhead of synchronous optical frames in the synchronous optical network and wherein the routing table is used to determine a destination network element in the synchronous optical network.”

The Mazzola reference nowhere discloses such a routing table or an IP tunneling layer network interface that translates IP packets to a second protocol to be communicated over a DCC channel. As stated in the Office Action, the Mazzola reference does not show overlaying an IP interface over a second communications protocol for transmission over the DCC channel in SONET overhead.

The Katz reference fails to add to the disclosure of the Mazzola reference. The Katz reference nowhere discloses a SONET network or a DCC channel in SONET overhead or a network interface that translates IP packets for transmission over a DCC channel in a SONET network or a table that stores information about IP devices connected to a synchronous optical network.

Even if the Mazzola reference and the Katz reference are combined, neither suggests or discloses translating IP packets for transmission over DCC channel in a SONET network.

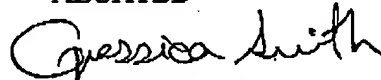
Serial No.: 09/343,517
Group Art Unit: 2663
Examiner: Derrick Ferris

Conclusion

For the above reasons, the foregoing amendment places the application in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of the application be withdrawn and full allowance granted. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, please contact Jessica Smith at (972) 477-9109.

Respectfully submitted,

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